

Firth/Shelley Fire District (Firth)

Profile of the District:

The Firth Fire District is a controlled fire district within Bingham County that has municipal and district responsibilities. It shares fire district responsibilities with the City of Shelley. The topography of the area varies from flat farm and ranchlands to mountainous areas that include agricultural and ranching operations. The District is experiencing higher population growth.

Organizational Structure

The Firth Fire District reports to the Fire District Commission. The organizational structure consists of one chief and 18 firefighters, all volunteer.

Facilities:

The District has one fire station with six bays. The Chief indicated a need to build an addition on to the existing station to add three bays.

Response Area:

Fire protection areas include agricultural, rangelands, forest, wild land urban interface, residential, and business. The District serves approximately 400 square miles.

Budget and Funding:

The District has experienced slight budget increases over the last five years. Approximately 85% of the budget comes from taxes with other funds coming from grants and miscellaneous sources.

Grants:

The District has received grant funds from the State IDS, the BLM, and U.S. Forest Service and from other sources. It is not yet familiar with the National Fire Plan and is striving to improve its grant seeking capabilities.

Records Management:

A manual records management system is in place. Records are maintained for apparatus, personnel, building, training, hose, hydrant, pump tests and responses. NIFIRS is used at this time and the District is building its own record tracking system.

Firefighting Program:

The District covers both the Cities of Firth and Shelley, and the surrounding area; however, this report covers only the Firth program. There are 18 personnel within the firefighting program, all volunteer personnel. Fire response includes protection for structural protection, wild land suppression, EMS, HazMat and rescue. The area does have a high risk for wild land urban interface fires but has no risk for terrorism. There are 15 firefighters trained in wild land suppression. The District reports that it has responded to approximately 65 fire-related incidents annually. It has the capability of a 10-minute response time including scene size-up, attack handlines, water supply, ventilation, search and rescue, and Institute ICS. Some adequate and reliable water sources are available including water mains, hydrants and area bodies of water.

Firefighting Program Summary of Existing Resources, Assets and Needs

Existing Resources/Assets	Needs
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 Station, 6 Bays• Volunteer Personnel• Grid Access Address System• 3,500 Structural & 1,000 Wild Land Total GPM Capacity• Manual Record Keeping System• Fire Response: Structural, Wild Lands, Rangeland, Forest, Agricultural, Residential & Business• 3 Structural Vehicles; 4 Structural/Utility Wild Land Vehicles• Meets ISO Water Flow Requirements• Meets NFPA Standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Update County Grid Maps• Updated BLM/Forest Service Maps• Addition to Existing Building to Add 3 Bays• 1-2 Heavy Brush Trucks• Road Maintenance Improvements• Improved River Access for Water Source• East Side Water System Improvements (Loop System)• Larger Water Mains• Update and Add Hydrants• Grants and Grant Writing Process• Easy, Accessible Location for Researching Grants• Computer/Software Training• Pump Testing Apparatus Closer to Station; Practice Pump Operations More Frequently• Pump/Operations Training from Certified Trainers• Wild Lands Refresher Courses• Schedule Planning Meetings Prior to Fire Season

Hazardous Materials Program:

A HazMat response team is not in place. The district will respond to HazMat calls and secure the scene for safety. Written mutual aid agreements are in place with the U.S. Forest Service, BLM, INEEL, the Idaho Department of Lands and the Blackfoot Fire Department.

Hazardous Materials Summary of Existing Resources, Assets and Needs

Existing Resources/Assets	Needs
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training • Equipment • PPE • Separate Breathing Apparatus

EMS Program:

The District does not have a separated EMS system or budget; it is part of the Fire District. Personnel are trained in First Responder and EMT Basic. Approximately 56 EMS calls are made annually. The program has no licensed patient transport vehicles.

EMS Program Summary of Existing Resources, Assets and Needs

Existing Resources/Assets	Needs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Responders • Basic, Intermediate and Advanced Trained Personnel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Personnel Trained to the EMT-Basic Level • Upgrade Equipment (e.g., Defibrillators) • Additional Vehicle for EMS Rescue

Training and Certification:

Minimum requirements for training and certification include structural protection (essentials), wild land suppression (essential), EMS (first responder) and HazMat awareness. It has an ongoing training program it maintains. The District's training programs meet some of the NFPA, NWCG standards. It does utilize the IFSA training program.

Training and Certification Summary of Existing Resources, Assets and Needs

Existing Resources/Assets	Needs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum Training Requirements • Utilizes IFSTA Training Program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved Training Areas • Proper Training Equipment • Low Cost Training for Personnel • Established Training Program • Distance Learning System • Training Aids, Table Top Simulators, Videos, Slides

Communications:

The District does have radio communication capacity. All vehicles are equipped with radios but the District does not have sufficient hand-held units. All radios are multi-frequency capable but some radio communications are inadequate with other entities. Primary dispatch is through the Bingham County 911 system.

Communication Summary of Existing Resources, Assets and Needs

Existing Resources/Assets	Needs
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Responds to Remote Alarm Calls• Portable Radios• All Vehicles Radio Equipped	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• More Multi-Frequency Radios• Improve Communication with Other Entities• Repeater

Prevention and Inspection:

The District does administer and enforce Fire Code regulations. Fire cause and origin investigations are also conducted. The State Fire Marshal's Office is utilized for reference and guidance. If there is a question or a cause cannot be determined, the District calls upon the Blackfoot or State Fire Marshal's Offices

Prevention and Inspection Summary of Existing Resources, Assets and Needs

Existing Resources/Assets	Needs
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Administers & Enforces Fire Codes• Fire Cause and Origin Investigations Conducted	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• More Cooperative and Unified Efforts within Area• Educational Programs

Public Education:

The District does conduct public education programs for structural fires and home safety. It also regularly participates in public outreach at fairs, schools, public events and fire station activities.

Public Education Summary of Existing Resources, Assets and Needs

Existing Resources/Assets	Needs
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Public Education Programs• Outreach Education and Inspections	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grants/Private Funding for Instructional Materials• Prepackaged Programs